

In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Second amended) Apparatus for supporting a body part, comprising:
a rest member for said body part;
an expandable member associated with said rest member; and
means for expanding said expandable member upwardly and forwardly at an angle with respect to a base of said expandable member, with said body part on said rest member.
2. (Second amended) Apparatus as defined in claim 1 further including an auxiliary surface associated therewith.
3. (Amended) Apparatus as defined in claim 2 wherein said body part is a foot positioned on said rest member in the non-expanded position of said expandable member.
4. (Amended) Apparatus as defined in claim 2 wherein said body part is an arm positioned on said rest member.
5. (Amended) Apparatus as defined in claim 1 wherein said rest member is a platform that is supported by a tubular member.
6. (Amended) Apparatus as defined in claim 5 wherein said platform is configured to said body part when said rest member is in the non-expanded position of said expandable member.
7. (Second amended) Apparatus as defined in claim 1 wherein said expandable member is selected from the class consisting of externally reinforced bellows and scissors mechanisms.
8. (Second amended) Apparatus as defined in claim 7 wherein said expandable member is adhered to a portion of said platform.
9. (Originally presented) Apparatus as defined in claim 1 wherein said means for expanding includes means for inflating said expandable member and further including a safety guard therefor.
10. (Originally presented) Apparatus as defined in claim 9 wherein said means for inflating comprises a compressor.

11. (Second amended) The method of supporting a body part for transfer, comprising the steps of:
 - (a) positioning said body part on a [rest] rigid member at rest;
 - (b) expanding said ~~rest~~ member by a bellows to an inclined elevation with said body part supported thereon; and
 - (c) transferring said body part from said ~~rest~~-member.
12. (Second amended) The method of claim 11 further including the step of expanding against said rigid ~~rest~~ member in association with a bed.
13. (Amended) The method of claim 11 wherein the positioning step includes positioning a foot upon said ~~rest~~ member.
14. (Originally presented) The method of claim 11 wherein the positioning step includes positioning an arm on said ~~rest~~ member.
15. (Amended) The method of claim 11 further including the step of expanding against said ~~rest~~-member by a compressor.
16. (Second amended) The method of fabricating apparatus for supporting a body part comprising the steps of:
 - (a) providing a ~~pivotal~~-platform supportable by a tubular member pivotally attached thereto configured to said body part; and
 - (b) associating an expandable member with said platform.
17. (Cancelled).
18. (Amended) The method of claim ~~17~~ 36 further including the step of providing means for angularly inflating said bellows.
19. (Originally presented) The method of claim 18 further including the step of providing a valve for inflating said bellows.
20. (Originally presented) The method of claim 19 further including the step of providing means for attaching a compressor to said valve.

21. (Second amended) A system for assisting a person [having] to have a lower limb [into adopting] adopt a reclined position from a sitting position, comprising
a surface upon which a said person is to be seated; and [to recline; and
means for transferring the person to said surface, comprising]
means for elevating [a] said lower limb of said person to a level permitting
the transfer of said [person to said surface with said] lower limb [in] to a reclined
position on said surface.
22. (Originally presented) A system as defined in claim 21 wherein said surface
comprises a bed.
23. (Originally presented) system as defined in claim 22 wherein said bed includes a
mattress.
24. (Amended) A system as defined in claim 21 wherein the means for transferring is
positioned on a floor-based platform.
25. (Originally presented) A system as defined in claim 24 further including a support
for said lower limb.
26. (Amended) A system as defined in claim 25 further including means for
continuously elevating said support with respect to said platform.
27. (Originally presented) A system as defined in claim 26 wherein said means for
elevating elevates said support and permits the transfer of said lower limb to said
surface.
28. (Amended) A system as defined in claim 27 wherein said support is depressible
in level condition to the vicinity of said platform after said lower limb has been
transferred.
29. (Originally presented) A system as defined in claim 28 wherein said elevating
means is switch-actuable.
30. (Originally presented) A system as defined in claim 29 wherein said elevating
means is selected from the class of manually and automatically powered devices.

31. (Amended) A method for assisting persons seated [into adopting a reclined position] on an elevated surface comprising the steps of:
 - (a) positioning a seated person's lower limb on bellows means for elevating said lower limb;
 - (b) elevating said lower limb with said person remaining seated; and
 - (c) transferring said elevated lower limb to said elevated surface.
32. (Originally presented) A method as defined in claim 31 wherein said means for elevating said lower limb adjoins said elevated surface.
33. (Originally presented) A method as defined in claim 31 wherein said person is wheeled to said means for elevating said lower limb and the foot of said lower limb is positioned thereon.
34. (Originally presented) A method as defined in claim 31 wherein said lower limb is elevated to substantially the level of said elevated surface.
35. (Amended) A method as defined in claim 34 wherein said [disabled] lower limb is transferred to said elevated surface such that said person can adopt a reclined position.
36. (Replacing claim 17) The method of fabricating apparatus for supporting a body part comprising the steps of:
 - (a) providing a pivotal platform configured to said body part; and
 - (b) associating an expandable member with said platform;further including the step attaching a bellows to said platform to serve as said expandable member.